

litter with their dam in the same primary enclosure, provided the dam has been individually identified.

(e)(1) All animals, except dogs and cats, delivered for transportation, transported, purchased, sold, or otherwise acquired or disposed of by any dealer or exhibitor shall be identified by the dealer or exhibitor at the time of delivery for transportation, purchase, sale, acquisition or disposal, as provided for in this paragraph and in records maintained as required in §§ 2.75 and 2.77.

(2) When one or more animals, other than dogs or cats, are confined in a primary enclosure, the animal(s) shall be identified by:

(i) A label attached to the primary enclosure which shall bear a description of the animals in the primary enclosure, including:

- (A) The number of animals;
- (B) The species of the animals;
- (C) Any distinctive physical features of the animals; and
- (D) Any identifying marks, tattoos, or tags attached to the animals;

(ii) Marking the primary enclosure with a painted or stenciled number which shall be recorded in the records of the dealer or exhibitor together with:

- (A) A description of the animal(s);
- (B) The species of the animal(s); and
- (C) Any distinctive physical features of the animal(s); or

(iii) A tag or tattoo applied to each animal in the primary enclosure by the dealer or exhibitor which individually identifies each animal by description or number.

(3) When any animal, other than a dog or cat, is not confined in a primary enclosure, it shall be identified on a record, as required by § 2.75, which shall accompany the animal at the time it is delivered for transportation, transported, purchased, or sold, and shall be kept and maintained by the dealer or exhibitor as part of his or her records.

§ 2.51 Form of official tag.

(a) The official tag shall be made of a durable alloy such as brass, bronze, or steel, or of a durable plastic. Aluminum of a sufficient thickness to assure the tag is durable and legible may

also be used. The tag shall be one of the following shapes:

(1) Circular in shape and not less than 1¼ inches in diameter, or

(2) Oblong and flat in shape, not less than 2 inches by ¾ inch and riveted to an acceptable collar.

(b) Each tag shall have the following information embossed or stamped on so that it is easily readable:

- (1) The letters "USDA";
- (2) Numbers identifying the State and dealer, exhibitor, or research facility (*e.g.*, 39-AB); and
- (3) Numbers identifying the animal (*e.g.*, 82488).

(c) Official tags shall be serially numbered. No individual dealer or exhibitor shall use any identification tag number more than once within a 5-year period.

§ 2.52 How to obtain tags.

Dealers or exhibitors may obtain, at their own expense, official tags from commercial tag manufacturers.⁴ At the time the dealer or exhibitor is issued a license or is registered, the Department will assign identification letters and numbers and inform them of the identification letters and numbers to be used on the official tags.

§ 2.53 Use of tags.

Official tags obtained by a dealer, exhibitor, or research facility, shall be applied to dogs or cats in the manner set forth in § 2.50 and in as close to consecutive numerical order as possible. No tag number shall be used to identify more than one animal. No number shall be repeated within a 5-year period.

§ 2.54 Lost tags.

Each dealer or exhibitor shall be held accountable for all official tags acquired. In the event an official tag is lost from a dog or cat while in the possession of a dealer or exhibitor, the dealer or exhibitor shall make a diligent effort to locate and reapply the

⁴A list of the commercial manufacturers who produce these tags and are known to the Department may be obtained from the APHIS, REAC Sector Supervisor. Any manufacturer who desires to be included in the list should notify the Administrator.